

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA



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August 25, 2014

### **VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Ms. Jocelyn Boyd Chief Clerk & Administrator Public Service Commission of South Carolina Synergy Business Park, Saluda Building 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC's Annual Review of Base Rates for Fuel Costs

**Docket No. 2014-3-E** 

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Enclosed for filing please find the Settlement Testimony of Kim H. Smith for Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC in the above-referenced docket. By copy of this letter we are serving the same on the parties of record.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Yours truly,

ROBINSON, McFadden & Moore, P.C.

Frank R. Ellerbe, III

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**Enclosures** 

cc: Shannon Bowyer Hudson, Esquire (via email and US Mail)

Andrew M. Bateman, Esquire (via email and US Mail)

Scott Elliott, Esquire (via email and US Mail)

J. Blanding Holman, IV, Esquire (via email and US Mail)

Timika Shafeek-Horton, Deputy General Counsel (via email)

Brian L. Franklin, Esquire (via email)

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA DOCKET NO. 2014-3-E

In the Matter of	)
Annual Review of Base Rates	) SETTLEMENT TESTIMONY
for Fuel Costs for	OF KIM H. SMITH FOR
Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC	) DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS, LLC

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1	O.	PLEASE	STATE YOUR	NAME AND	RUSINESS	<b>ADDKESS</b>

- 2 A. My name is Kim H. Smith. My business address is 550 South Tyron Street,
- 3 Charlotte, North Carolina.

# 4 Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?

- 5 A. I am Rates Manager for Duke Energy Carolinas LLC ("Duke Energy Carolinas",
- 6 "DEC," or the "Company").

## 7 Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY FILED TESTIMONY IN THIS DOCKET

- 8 A. Yes, I filed direct testimony supporting the Company's request for recovery of fuel
- 9 costs.

### 10 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS TESTIMONY?

- 11 A. This testimony is filed to support the settlement that has been reached among the
- Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS"), the South Carolina Energy Users Committee
- 13 ("SCEUC"), and DEC.
- 14 O. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE ADJUSTMENTS THAT ARE COVERED BY
- 15 THE SETTLEMENT.
- 16 A. DEC accepted several adjustments proposed by the ORS in its direct testimony.
- 17 These adjustments had the effect of reducing the cumulative under-recovery of base
- fuel costs for the period June 2013 through May 2014. These adjustments are
- described in paragraphs 4 and 6 of the Settlement Agreement:
- 20 o \$2,418,974 relating to revisions to carrying costs collected on excess coal
- 21 inventory during the review period.
- 22 o \$490,428 to disallow recovery of replacement fuel relating to an extended outage
- of the Marshall Unit 3 generating plant.

1		o \$97,941 from a settlement with a contractor relating to an outage reviewed in last					
2		year's fuel proceeding. DEC had proposed sharing the \$97,941 with customers					
3		through a rider but accepted the ORS recommendation that it be applied to					
4		reduce the under-recovery balance.					
5		<ul> <li>\$8,173 to adjust for sales taxes on reagent purchases during the review period.</li> </ul>					
6	Q.	PLEASE DESCRIBE THE DEFERRAL THAT IS PROPOSED IN THE					
7		SETTLEMENT.					
8	A.	The parties to the settlement are asking this Commission to approve a deferral of the					
9		recovery of \$18 million of the Company's under-collected balance for the review					
10		period. If the deferral is approved, DEC will delay the recovery of that \$18 million					
11		for a year. The Company would charge and accrue carrying costs on that amount					
12		while it is being deferred and then begin collecting the \$18 million during the period					
13		beginning on October 1, 2015. This proposed deferral does not have any effect on					
14		the deferral approved in last year's DEC fuel case, Docket No. 2013-3-E.					
15	Q.	DO YOU REQUEST ON BEHALF OF DEC THAT THE COMMISSION					
16		APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT AGREEEMENT?					
17	A.	Yes. We think that the Settlement Agreement represents a fair resolution of the					
18		issues presented in this proceeding and that approval would be in the public interest.					
19	Q.	DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR PRE-FILED SETTLEMENT					
20		TESTIMONY?					

A. Yes.

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# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA DOCKET NO. 2014-3-E

In Re:	)	
	)	
Annual Review of Base Rates for	)	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
Fuel Costs for Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC	)	

This is to certify that I, Toni C. Hawkins, a Paralegal with the law firm of Robinson, McFadden & Moore, P.C., have this day caused to be served upon the person(s) named below the **Settlement Testimony of Kim H. Smith** in the foregoing matter by placing a copy of same in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed as follows:

Shannon Bowyer Hudson, Esquire Andrew M. Bateman, Esquire Office of Regulatory Staff 1401 Main Street, Suite 900 Columbia, SC 29201

Scott Elliott, Esquire Elliott & Elliott, P.A. 1508 Lady Street Columbia, SC 29201

J. Blanding Holman, IV, Esquire Southern Environmental Law Center 43 Broad Street, Suite 300 Charleston, SC 29401

Dated at Columbia, South Carolina this <u>25<sup>th</sup></u> day of August, 2014.

Toni C. Hawkins

Doni C. Hawkins